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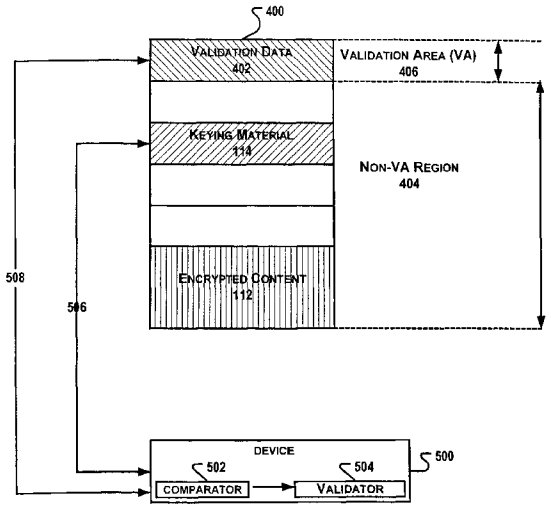
(54) Title: VALIDATING KEYING MATERIAL BY USING A VALIDATION AREA OF READ-ONLY MEDIA TO PREVENT PLAYBACK OF UNAUTHORIZED COPIES OF CONTENT STORED ON THE MEDIA



(57) Abstract: In one aspect of the invention is a method for preventing unauthorized copies of a medium, such as a DVD, from being played by a compliant device (500) by using the validation area (VA) (406) region of a medium to validate keying material. A compliant device is a device that will validate (114) keying material. In one embodiment of the invention, a compliant device validates keying material by using the value in the VA region of the medium. In alternative embodiments, a compliant device wil validate keying material by checking correspondence between keying material written to a non-VA region (404) of a medium and validation data (402) written to a VA region of a medium. In the alternative embodiments, if the keying material does not correspond to the validation data, then a compliant device will prevent the contents of the medium from being played.

WO 02/080171 A1